

PLANTING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TEMPORARY RIGHT-OF-WAYS

Native species should be planted in transitional zones as much as possible. Native species provide better sources of food and shelter. Information about using native plantings can be obtained from these and other similar sources:



- Appendix 3 of PA DCNR's Guidelines for Administering Oil and Gas Activity on State Forest Lands:
www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_004055.pdf
- NRCS Guide to Conservation Plants on Critical Areas for the Northeast:
www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_PLANT_MATERIALS/publications/nypmspu11417.pdf
- Nurseries that sell native trees or shrubs

Site-specific recommendations can also be provided by the NRCS Field Office serving your community, county conservation district, a local consultant or a technical advisor familiar with your site conditions.

The **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service** is a federal agency that assists farmers and landowners with the voluntary installation of conservation measures that protect and restore our nation's natural resources.

www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov

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How To Make Right-of-Ways More Beneficial For Wildlife

Change this...



into this!



- * **Provide** food and shelter for wildlife
- * **Encourage** greater diversity of wildlife
- * **Sustain** wildlife during the winter

CREATE TRANSITIONAL ZONES FOR WILDLIFE

When an underground pipeline is installed, there is often a need to have a large Temporary Right-of-Way (ROW) for the necessary equipment and materials to properly install the pipeline.

While the Permanent ROW needs to stay in grass, the Temporary ROW provides an excellent opportunity to create a transitional zone of beneficial habitat for wildlife.

A zone that gradually transitions from the Permanent ROW grass to mature trees can offer high-quality food and shelter to birds, bees, butterflies, and mammals.

Having long wavy edges between the Temporary ROW and the Permanent ROW provides cover from predators along with areas of sun and shade for wildlife.

Deer, turkey, small mammals, and songbirds all benefit from a diversity of forbs, legumes, and shrubs that grow in the transitional zones.

Transitional zones also provide seeds, pollen, nectar, forage and insects that can be used or eaten by birds and small mammals.



Birds have a higher rate of nesting success where sites are available at various heights.

Since most wildlife will not venture far from protective cover, the transitional zone allows them to cross over the Permanent ROW to protective cover on the other side.

CONSERVATION PRACTICES FOR TRANSITIONAL ZONES

Brush Management– Manage or remove invasive and noxious plants and protect desired species.

Forest Stand Improvement– Cut selected mature trees along the wooded outer edge of Temporary ROW to improve for wildlife habitat and initiate forest stand regeneration.



Tree/Shrub Establishment– Use diverse native species combinations that best meet wildlife and pollinator needs.

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management– Restrict disturbance to habitat during critical periods such as nesting, brood rearing, fawning, and calving seasons.

For additional information about these and other conservation practices, please visit Section IV of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FTOG):

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/technical/ftog/

It is important to meet with the pipeline company to review your proposed plans. Consider installing signs to identify areas that should not to be mowed or sprayed.



Example of a Transitional Zone in a Temporary Right-of-Way

